

I truly appreciate the latest allocations offered in this NPRM. I have always hoped we could find a spot in the VLF portion of the spectrum for experimentation.

In the case of the 5.25 to 5.4 mhz band, I would ask that the lower end, 5.25 to 5.3 mhz be allocated to weak signal and CW emissions to allow further use of the unique propagation available, with SSB phone and digital users above.

I would like to see a 200 watt power limit applied to ALL modes across the new band.

Use of AM (double sideband with carrier) should be limited or not allowed due to the wideband nature of those signals and seemingly concurrent spatter and spurious emissions. AM has outlived its usefulness and I believe, has no place on today's crowded phone bands. Or, as a compromise, enforce some sort of bandwidth limitation that would require a total signal width equal to that of a properly adjusted Single Sideband transmission, as was done in the past with Narrow Band FM. A 3 khz total bandwidth standard could be effective, and would certainly reduce the tendency of AM signals to occupy a large amount of band space with a small number of users. Maximum enjoyment for the largest number of amateurs is hardly compatible with presence of 6-10 khz wide AM signals on the new band. While I understand the AM group to be a loud and prolific comment source, I don't feel they represent a sufficiently large portion of the Amateur Radio resource. Therefore, keeping AM in its present spectrum seems in order.

As an active member of the Army Mars Program, we have used the 5 mhz spectrum successfully with digital modes, and been pleased with its ability to carry excellent signals over long distances. I feel the digital modes should be authorized also. With the narrow band modulation schemes now available, many signals can use a small bit of spectrum, much like CW.

Perhaps access to the new band could be limited to General Class and above, providing a bit of incentive for new licensees to upgrade and learn more about our great hobby.

Thank you

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